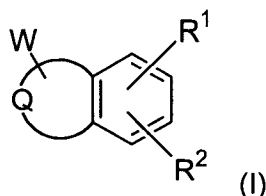
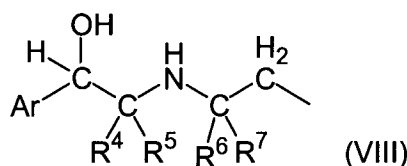


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound of the formula (I):



wherein W is a group of the following formula (VIII) binding to any possible position on the Q;



Q is, together with W, a group of the formula: $-C(W)=C(R^{3A})-N(R^3)-[L]$ or $-C(R^{3A})=C(W)-N(R^3)$, $-C(R^{3A})=C(R^{3B})-N(W)$, $-C(W)=N-N(R^3)$, $-C(R^{3A})=N-N(W)$, $-N=C(W)-N(R^3)$, $-N=C(R^{3A})-N(W)$, $-C(W)=N-O$, or $-C(W)=N-S$;

R^{3A} and R^{3B} are independently a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group; R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , and R^7 are independently a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group;

R^1 is an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, or a group of the formula: $-X-R^{1e}$, $-C(=O)NR^{1a}R^{1b}$, $-X-R^{1e}-C(=O)OR^{1a}$ or $-X-R^{1d}$ (wherein which X is a direct bond or a group of the formula: $-O-$, $-S-$, $-N(R^{1e})$, $-N(R^{1e})C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)N(R^{1e})$, $-N(R^{1e})SO_2$, or $-SO_2N(R^{1c})-$, and R^{1e} is a direct bond or an optionally substituted lower alkylene group,

R^{1a} , R^{1b} , and R^{1c} are independently a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted aralkyl group, an optionally substituted aryl group, or an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group; or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, or R^{1a} and R^{1b} may combine each other, and with the adjacent nitrogen atom to which they bond, form a saturated 3 to 8 membered cyclic amino group optionally having a group of the formula: O or NH within the ring (said saturated cyclic amino group being substituted or unsubstituted); R^{1d} is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted phenyl group, or an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group (a $-CH_2-$ moiety of said cycloalkyl

~~group optionally being replaced by one or more groups of the formula: $-O-$ or $N(R^{1a})$, which are the same or different));~~

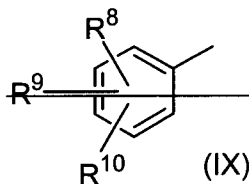
R^2 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkenyl group, an optionally substituted amino group, a hydroxy group, a lower alkoxy group, or

~~R^1 and R^2 may combine each other and form a methylenedioxy group and said methylenedioxy group may optionally be substituted by a carboxyl group or a lower alkoxy carbonyl group;~~

R^3 is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, or R^1 and R^3 may combine each other and form a divalent group of the formula: $-X-R^{1e}-C(=O)-$ (provided that the bond at the carbonyl side of the above formula binds to the atom to which R^3 of the compound of the formula (I) attaches);

Ar is a group of the following formula (IX), formula (X), or formula (XIII);

~~—A group of Formula (IX):~~



~~(in which R^8 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a trifluoromethyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy group, a lower alkoxy carbonyl group, a carboxyl group, an optionally substituted benzyloxy group, a hydroxy group, a nitro group, an optionally substituted lower alkylsulfonyl group, an optionally substituted benzenesulfonyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkylthio group, an optionally substituted lower alkylsulfinyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, an amino group, an optionally substituted lower alkanoylamino group, an optionally substituted mono or di lower alkylamino group, an optionally substituted lower alkylsulfonylamino group, or an optionally substituted benzenesulfonylamino group;~~

~~R^9 and R^{10} are independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy group, a lower alkoxy carbonyl group, a hydroxy group, an amino group or an optionally substituted mono or di lower alkylamino group, or~~

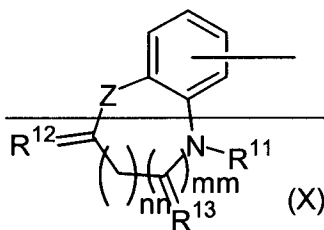
~~two of R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} may combine each other and form a methylenedioxy group, and said methylenedioxy group may optionally be substituted by a carboxyl group or a lower alkoxy carbonyl group, or~~

~~two of R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} may combine each other and form a group of the formula:~~

~~$-NR^{8a}C(=O)CR^{8b}=CR^{8c}-$ (R^{8a} , R^{8b} , and R^{8c} being the same or different and each a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted lower alkyl group);~~

~~provided that when R^1 is a group of the formula: $O-CH_2-C(=O)OR^{1a}$ and all of R^4 , R^5 , R^9 , and R^{10} are a hydrogen atom, then R^8 is not a halogen atom or a trifluoromethyl group substituting on the 3 position);~~

~~_____ A group of Formula (X):~~



~~(in which Z is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;~~

~~R^{11} is a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, or a group of the formula:~~

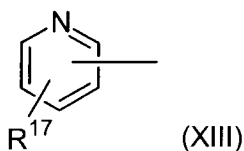
~~$-SO_2R^{14}$ or the formula: $-NR^{15}R^{16}$ (R^{14} is an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted phenyl group, an optionally substituted aralkyl group, R^{15} and R^{16} are independently a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, or an optionally substituted benzyl group);~~

~~R^{12} is an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or H_2 ;~~

~~R^{13} is an oxygen atom or H_2 ;~~

~~nn and mm are each 0 or 1); or~~

~~_____ A group of Formula (XIII):~~



~~(in which R^{17} is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, or a cyano group)[[.]];~~

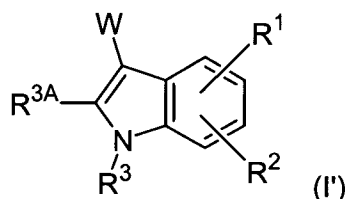
~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a group of the formula:
 $-X-R^{1e}-C(=O)NR^{1a}R^{1b}$ or the formula: $-X-R^{1e}-C(=O)OR^{1a}$, or R^1 and R^3 may combine each other and form a divalent group of the formula: $-X-R^{1e}-C(=O)-$ $[[[]]$, wherein X is a group of the formula:

$-O-$ or $-S-$, and

R^{1e} is a group of the formula: $-CR^{1f}R^{1g}-$ $[[[]]$, wherein R^{1f} and R^{1g} are independently a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted aryl group, or an optionally substituted aralkyl group, or both may combine each other, and with the carbon atom to which they bond, form an optionally substituted cycloalkane ring, provided that both R^{1f} and R^{1g} are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom $[[[]]]$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 or claim 2, which is a compound of the formula (I'):



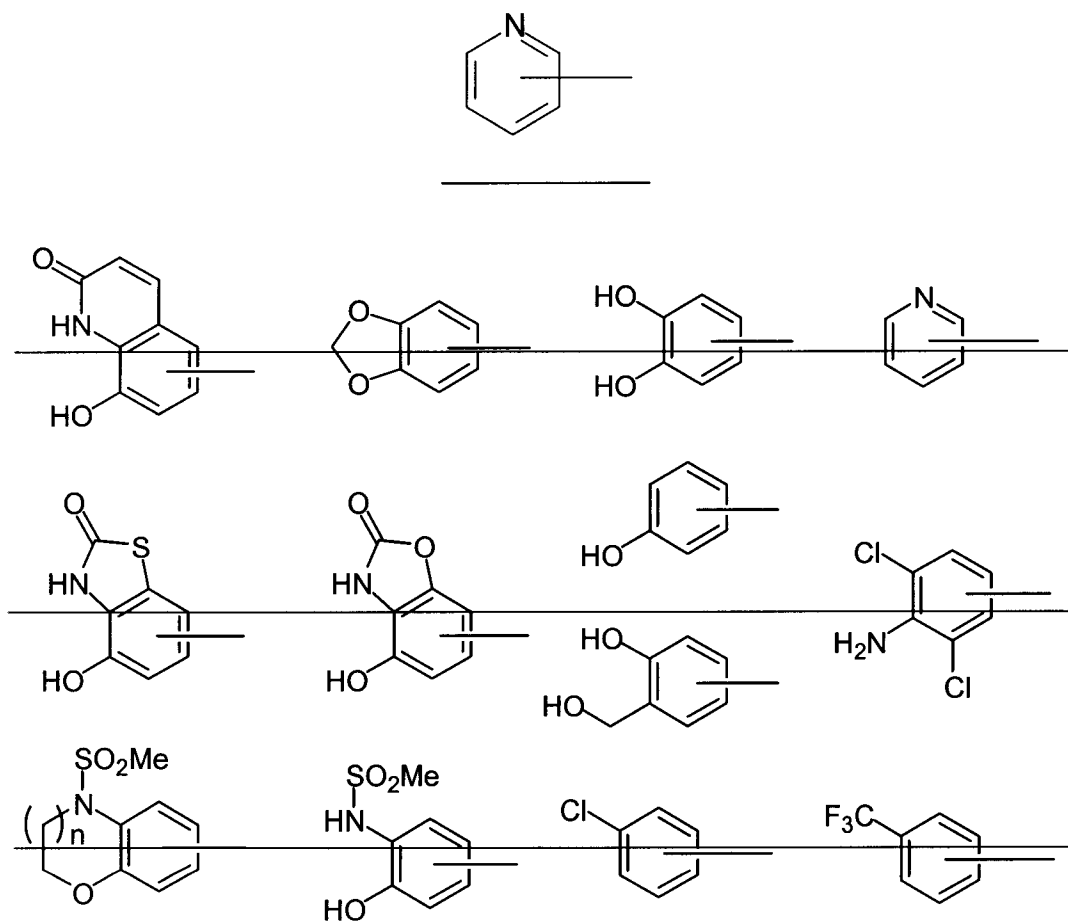
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^{3A} , and W are as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 3, wherein R^1 binds to the 5-, 6- or 7-position of the indole ring of the compound of the formula (I'), and R^2 is a hydrogen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Original) The compound according to claim 3, wherein R^2 is a group other than a hydrogen atom, and one of R^1 and R^2 binds to the 6-position of the indole ring of the compound of the formula (I'), and the other binds to the 7-position thereof,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is a group selected from the following substituents:



wherein n is 0, 1, or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is a group of the formula: -X-R^{1c}-C(=O)NR^{1a}R^{1b} or -X-R^{1c}-C(=O)OR^{1a};

X is a direct bond or a group of the formula: -O-;

R^{1a}, and R^{1b}[[,]] when it exists, are independently selected from

- (i) a hydrogen atom,
 - (ii) an unsubstituted lower alkyl group,
 - (iii) a lower alkyl group being substituted by one or more substituents, which are the same or different, and said substituent(s) are selected from a carboxyl group, a lower alkoxy carbonyl group, an amino group, a hydroxy group, an alkoxy group, a mercapto group, an alkylthio group, a carbamoyl group, an indolyl group, a guanidino group, an imidazolyl group, and a phenyl group optionally being substituted by a hydroxy group, or
 - ~~—— (iv) — a saturated 3 to 8 membered cyclic amino group which is formed by combining R^{1a} and R^{1b} together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to which they bond, and optionally has a group of the formula: O or NH within the ring (said saturated cyclic amino group being unsubstituted, or optionally being substituted by a carboxyl group or a lower alkoxy carbonyl group),~~
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The compound according to claim 2, wherein R^1 is a group of the formula: $-X-CR^{1f}R^{1g}-C(=O)OR^{1a}$,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. (Previously presented) The compound according to claim 2, wherein X is a group of the formula: $-O-$,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient the compound as set forth in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for treatment of obesity, hyperglycemia, frequent urination, urinary incontinence, depression, or bilestone, which comprises administering to a patient in need an effective amount of the compound as set forth in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Canceled)